

490 North Meridian Road Kalispell, MT 59901 406-752-5501

DECISION NOTICE Flat Iron Latrine Relocation

May 20, 2014

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED PROJECT

The State Parks Division of Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP) proposes to relocate the public latrine at the Flat Iron public access site on the Lower Clark Fork River in Sanders County.

Currently the Flat Iron public latrine, located on US Highway 200, one mile down river from Thompson Falls State Park, is located below the normal high-water mark along the Clark Fork River. As a result, the latrine is frequently flooded during high flows, prompting FWP to preemptively pump the vault and prohibit public use until waters drop.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternative A: Proposed Action

Replace and relocate the toilet to higher ground, out of the high-water run-off zone. The latrine replacement would be of similar size and configuration and would be located in an area of the site that does not flood.

Alternative B: No Action

Latrine would remain in its current location and, consequently, be subjected to the periodic flooding of the vault during high-water run-off.

PUBLIC PROCESS AND COMMENT

A draft environmental assessment (EA) was released for public review and comment from April 1, 2014 through April 21, 2014. The document was posted on the Montana State Parks website and announced through a statewide press release. The EA was further announced with legal notices published in the Kalispell Daily Inter Lake and the Sanders County Ledger. No public comments were received during this period.

DECISION

Based on the analysis in the draft EA and the applicable laws, regulations and policies, I have determined that the proposed action will not have significant negative effects on the human or physical environment. Therefore an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. It is my decision to implement Alternative A and relocate the latrine to a higher location. The final EA and this decision notice are available from FWP at the above address.

This action is subject to appeal, which must be submitted to the FWP State Parks Division Administrator in writing and postmarked within 30 days of this decision notice. The appeal must specifically describe the basis for the appeal, explain how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and how FWP might address the concerns of the appeal.

David Landstrom

Date

Region One State Parks Manager Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks